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TO NORMAN/LORD FOR MR. WISSINGER
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T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH30411

TOHAK 83

FEBRUARY 11, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. WISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: SUNDAY CAPLE SUMMARY

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SITUATION IN INDOCHINA: THERE WAS A SLIGHT DECREASE IN MAJOR AND MINOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS YESTERDAY. MAJOR VIOLATIONS TOTALLED 26 WITH 140 MINOR ONES REPORTED. CASUALTIES YESTERDAY WERE 224 ENEMY AND 49 FRIENDLY KILLED.

NO CHANGE HAS BEEN NOTED IN THE TACTICAL POSTURE OF UNITS IN MILITARY REGION 1. HOWEVER, ENEMY PRESSURE HAS INCREASED ON THE FORWARD ELEMENTS OF THE ARVN AIRBORNE DIVISION ALONG THE THACH NAM RIVER AND 3RD ARVN DIVISION UNITS IN THE WESTERN QUE SON VALLEY. IN THE AIRBORNE DIVISION AREA OF OPERATIONS A COMPANY SIZED ENEMY ATTACK WAS REPULSED BY FRIENDLY TROOPS NORTH OF THON NHU LE. 1ST ARVN DIVISION ELEMENTS CONTINUE THEIR OPERATIONS AGAINST ENEMY INFILTRATION ROUTES WHILE THE 3RD ARVN DIVISION REPORTS AN INCREASE IN LIGHT ENEMY ATTACKS-BY-FIRE AND GROUND ASSAULTS. THE 2ND ARVN DIVISION ATTACK TO RECAPTURE THE SA HUYNH AREA IS PROGRESSING SLOWLY AGAINST AN ESTIMATED FIVE-BATTALION FORCE OF THE 2ND NVA DIVISION.

OSD Review
Completed

IN MILITARY REGION 2, A SLIGHT INCREASE IN ENEMY ATTACKS-BY-FIRE AND GROUND ATTACKS IS REPORTED FROM THE HIGHLANDS WHILE ROUTE 14 BETWEEN KONUM AND BLEIKU REMAINS CLOSED. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTACT IN THE REGION WAS AN ENEMY INITIATED ATTACK AGAINST A ARVN RANGER COMPANY IN THE THANH AN AREA. THE ENEMY LOST 39 KILLED. FRIENDLY LOSSES WERE LIGHT. FRIENDLY UNITS CLEARING ROUTE 14 SOUTH OF BLEIKU REPORT THE HIGHWAY TO BE SECURE TO MY THACH, HOWEVER, RESUPPLY CONVOYS WILL NOT MOVE OVER THE HIGHWAY UNTIL THE SITUATION HAS HAD TIME TO STABILIZE. ENEMY ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE REGION IS ISOLATED AND IS CHARACTERIZED AS HARASSING IN NATURE RATHER THAN CONCENTRATED ATTEMPTS TO ENGAGE FRIENDLY FORCES OR SECURE ADDITIONAL LAND AREAS. THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF CONTESTED HAMLETS IN THE REGION.

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ENEMY ACTIVITY IN MILITARY REGION 3 IS AT A LOW LEVEL CONSISTING OF MINOR GROUND PROBES AND ATTACKS-BY-FIRE. ALL HAMLETS AND LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE REGION REMAIN SECURE.

IN THE DELTA, GROUND ACTIVITY CONTINUES AT A MODERATE LEVEL WITH A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER AND INTENSITY OF ATTACKS-BY-FIRE. MOST OF THE INCIDENTS IN MILITARY REGION 4 CONTINUE TO BE REPORTED FROM CHUONG THIEN, DINH TUONG AND KIEN PHONG PROVINCES. ONE SIGNIFICANT ATTACK-BY-FIRE OCCURRED IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE, IN THE AREA OF KIEN LONG AND LONG MY, WHERE A TOTAL OF 160 ROUNDS OF MORTAR FIRE WERE DIRECTED AGAINST ELEMENTS OF A REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY. ONLY VERY LIGHT CASUALTIES ARE REPORTED IN THIS ATTACK.

AFTER A BRIEF RESPIRE IN CAMBODIA, COMMUNISTS FORCES YESTERDAY CONTINUED THEIR ATTACKS EAST OF PHNOM PENH, BETWEEN BANAM AND NEAK LUONG. ENEMY FORCES SEIZED A BRIDGE ON ROUTE 15 AND A SECTION OF THE HIGHWAY. THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS THAT BANAM TOWN HAS BEEN PENETRATED. GOVERNMENT REINFORCEMENTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE AREA. ELSEWHERE, ENEMY ATTACKS-BY-FIRE CONTINUE ON FRIENDLY POSITIONS. IN ADDITION, ROUTE 1 HAS BEEN CLOSED WEST OF PHNOM PENH. TO THE NORTH, ENEMY PRESSURE ON THE SOUTHERN PERIMETER OF KOMPONG THOM CITY CONTINUES AND U.S. TACTICAL AIR STRIKES WERE EMPLOYED FOR THE SECOND SUCCESSIVE DAY. SOME GOVERNMENT POSITIONS REMAIN CUT OFF AND THE CITY'S DEFENDERS REPORT THE

IN LAOS: THE COMBINATION OF ARTILLERY AND INFANTRY IN THE STRATEGIC
POSITIONS. THE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION AND IRREGULAR FORCES NOW
IS HOLDING FORWARD DEFENSES ALONG ROUTE 23 SOME FIVE MILES WEST
OF PAKSONG WITH ANOTHER BATTALION POSITIONED FARTHER WEST TO
DEFEND AN ARTILLERY POSITION. MEANWHILE, THE 1,400-MAN IRREGULAR
FORCE THAT HAD BEEN HOLDING THE ROAD BRIDGE AT THATTANG, IS
PUSHING SOUTH TOWARD PAKSONG. IN THE CENTRAL PANHANDLE, THE
BULK OF IRREGULAR FORCES FROM MUONG PHALANE HAS FALLEN BACK ALONG
ROUTE 9 SEVERAL MILES WEST OF THE TOWN WHILE PATROLS ARE HANGING
ALONG THE SE SANGSOY PINPOINTING ENEMY UNITS FOR AIRSTRIKES.
U.S. PILOTS FLEW 307 ATTACK AND 59 F-4D SORTIES YESTERDAY.

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